<u>Claims</u>

1. (Currently amended) A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks communicating to one another across a connecting network, the method comprising the steps of:

a) transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in a first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in a second local area network;

b) reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the first node;

c) receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network; and

d) comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node in the second local area network;

<u>wherein the burst of trial data is transmitted at a higher data rate than the packets to be transmitted.</u>

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein step a) includes selecting a path through the connecting network, the path being determined by the connecting network.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the burst of trial data is the same size as the packets to be transmitted in the continuous stream of data.

4. and 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, wherein step d) includes comparing the number of packets in the transmitted burst of trial data and the reflected burst of trial data, and calculating an estimate of packet loss rate of the path.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein multiple bursts of trial data are transmitted to improve the estimate.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, further comprising:

>   e) deciding to transmit packet data based on an acceptable packet loss rate for the transmission of the continuous stream of data.

9. (Currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 8,~~ <u>of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks communicating to one another across a connecting network, the method comprising the steps of:</u>

<u>a)</u>   <u>selecting a path through the connecting network, the path being determined by the connecting network, and transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in a first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in a second local area network;</u>

<u>b)</u>   <u>reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the first node;</u>

<u>c)</u>   <u>receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network; and</u>

<u>d)</u>   <u>comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node in the second local area network, including comparing the number of packets in the transmitted burst of trial data and the reflected burst of trial data, and calculating an estimate of packet loss rate of the path;</u>

e)   deciding to transmit packet data based on an acceptable packet loss rate for the transmission of the continuous stream of data,

wherein step d) includes comparing the number of packets in the transmitted burst of trial data and the reflected burst of trial data, and calculating an estimate of packet loss rate of the path, and

wherein the burst of trial data is the same size as the packets to be transmitted in the continuous stream of data, the burst of trial data is transmitted at a higher data rate than the packets to be transmitted, multiple bursts of trial data are transmitted to improve the estimate, and wherein the packet loss rate is not acceptable, the method further comprising the step of ~~and~~ changing the priority of the transmission of continuous stream of data and repeating steps a) to d) above at the changed priority.

10. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~claim 8~~ claim 1, wherein the packet loss rate is not acceptable and ~~step e)~~ the method includes not initiating the transmission of the continuous stream of data.

11-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 16,~~ of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks

including at least two local area networks communicating to one another across a

connecting network, the method comprising the steps of:

a) transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in a first local

area network through the connecting network to a second node in a second local

area network;

b) reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to

the first node;

c) receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through

the connecting network; and

d) comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst

of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data

can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second

node in the second local area network, including comparing the number of

packets in the transmitted burst of trial data and the reflected burst of trial

data, and calculating an estimate of packet loss rate of the path,

e) deciding to transmit packet data based on an acceptable packet loss

rate for the transmission of the continuous stream of data,

wherein step d) includes comparing the number of packets in the transmitted burst of trial data and the reflected burst of trial data, and calculating an estimate of packet loss rate of the path, and

wherein the burst of trial data is the same size as the packets to be transmitted in the continuous stream of data, the burst of trial data is transmitted at a higher data rate than the packets to be transmitted, multiple bursts of trial data are transmitted to improve the estimate, and wherein the packet loss rate is not acceptable, the method further comprising the step of ~~and~~ changing the priority of the transmission of continuous stream of data and repeating steps a) to d) above at the changed priority.

18-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently received) A method ~~according to claim 21,~~ of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks communicating to one another across a connecting network, the method comprising the steps of:

a)   transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in a first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in a second local area network;

b)   reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to

the first node;

c)   receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through

the connecting network; and

d)   comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst

of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data

can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second

node in the second local are network wherein the packet loss rate is not

acceptable, the method further comprising the step of ~~and~~ changing the priority

of the transmission of continuous stream of data and repeating steps a) to d)

above at the changed priority, and the method further comprising

e)   deciding to transmit packet data based on an acceptable packet loss

rate for the transmission of the continuous stream of data.

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of

data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks

communicating to one another across a connecting network, the method

comprising the steps of:

a) transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in a first local area

network through the connecting network to a second node in a second local area

network;

b) reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the

first node;

c) receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the

connecting network; and

d) comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of

trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data can

be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node

in the second local area network,

wherein the packet loss rate is not acceptable, the method further

comprising the step of changing the priority of the transmission of

continuous stream of data and repeating steps a) to d) above at the

changed priority.

25. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein step a) includes

selecting a path through the connecting network, the path being determined by

the connecting network.

26. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the burst of trial data is the same size as the packets to be transmitted in the continuous stream of data.

27. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the burst of trial data is transmitted at the same data rate as the packets to be transmitted.

28. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the burst of trial data is transmitted at a higher data rate than the packets to be transmitted.

29. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein step d) includes comparing the number of packets in the transmitted burst of trial data and the reflected burst of trial data, and calculating an estimate of packet loss rate of the path.

30. (New) A method according to claim 29, wherein multiple bursts of trial data are transmitted to improve the estimate.

31. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein the packet loss rate is not acceptable and the method includes not initiating the transmission of the continuous stream of data.

32. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said first node comprises a telephone.

33. (New) A method according to claim 32 wherein the second node comprises a telephone.

34. (New) A method according to claim 24, wherein said first node comprises a telephone.

35. (New) A method according to claim 34 wherein the second node comprises a telephone.